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(71) Applicants and

(72) Inventors: SMETS, Robert, D. [US/US]; 26990 SW  
45th Dr, Wilsonville, OR 97070 (US). SMETS, John, S.  
[US/US]; P.O. Box 560, Aurora, OR 97002 (US).

(74) Agent: BAKER, Theodore, W.; Klarquist Sparkman,  
LLP, One World Trade Center, Suite 1600, 121 SW Salmon  
Street, Portland, OR 97204 (US).

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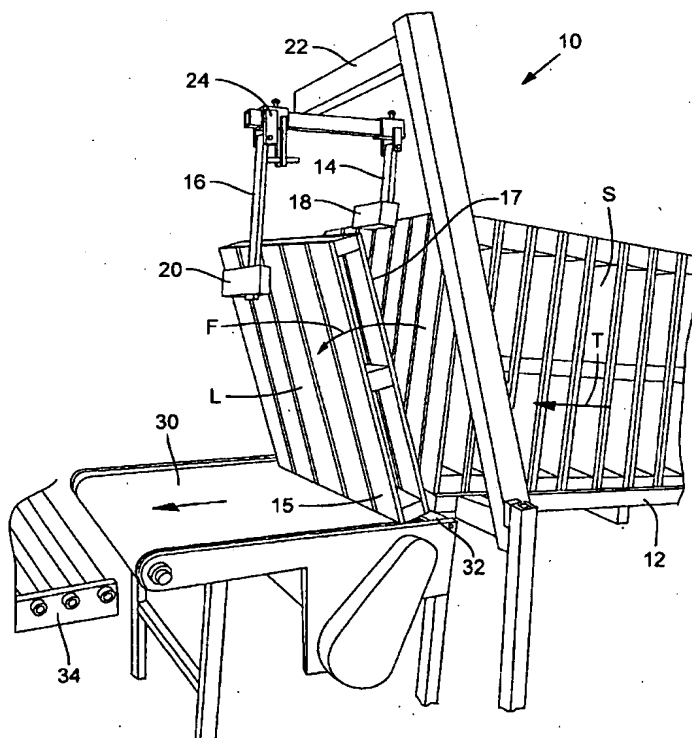
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(54) Title: STREAMLINED PALLET HANDLING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatus  
(10) are disclosed for handling pallets  
(S) to be inspected and sorted. The  
method can include tipping a substantially  
vertically oriented pallet (L) in a forward  
rotational direction to expose and allow  
inspection of a trailing major (17) surface  
of the pallet. A lower portion of the pallet  
then can be moved to cause the pallet to tip  
in a rearward rotational direction and land  
in a substantially horizontal position. The  
apparatus can include a pallet restraining  
device (16) for blocking the motion of  
an upper portion of the pallet as it tips  
in the forward rotational direction and  
a conveyor (30) for moving the lower  
portion of the pallet to cause the pallet to  
tip in the rearward rotational direction.

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